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March 3, 2011

Senate Republican Office
LOB Room 3400
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Proposed Bill HB6387 & SB1007

To Connecticut General Assembly:

We have recently been informed by the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) of the proposed bill HB6387 and SB 1007. I am a pilot and have recently acquired Business Aircraft Center at Danbury Airport and also own Danbury Aviation, located right next door.

There would be extreme adverse consequences to my business if these proposed bills are passed. Essentially it would drive aviation away from the State of Connecticut to the surrounding states with no property tax on aircraft thus leading to empty hangar space/tie down space, reduced fuel flowage and even fewer employees causing my business to plummet possibly into bankruptcy.

Repair stations, such as a tenant who has remained on my premises for several years would be forced to move away from the state of Connecticut. This bill would send customers to the surrounding states which have tax exemptions on parts and labor. Why would a customer come to Connecticut for repairs when they can save fuel and wear and tear on their aircraft if it is based in another state?

I have posted these proposed bills on our website and have sent notice to all of my customers which have responded and spoken back to us. They have stated that not only would I lose their business but they would no longer shop at the Danbury Mall and all surrounding stores. They have stated, the REASON they shop in the Danbury area is because their airplane is based there. Why would you want to force them to leave? They have even stated that they would relocate to tax friendly states or even worse, stop flying and sell their airplanes.

Several of my customers located at DXR provide missions from transporting cancer patients for treatment, to rescuing animals, to providing transportation to wounded soldiers or getting them home to their families for personal functions. I myself support organizations and donate substation ally and would not continue to do so in the future if these bill are passed.

Most airplane operators purchase fuel at their home airport, which would again reduce the amount of fuel flow by over 60% at my facility if they are forced to move to another state and therefore, also decrease the income given to the state for the fuel flowage by the same percentage they currently receive.

It is imperative to myself as a Fixed Based Operator (FBO), as well as my TENANTS, EMPLOYEES, AND CUSTOMERS that this bill NOT BE SUPPORTED or allowed to proceed any further.

Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions. I can be reached at (203) 966-5466.

Best regards,



Santo Silvestro
Member